**September 22, 2014**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Local Theatre Company Launches Bold Indiegogo Campaign**

JANE a theater company

janetheater.org

SET THE SCENE building fund

<https://www.indiegogo.com/projects/set-the-scene-building-fund>

The need for theater space in Portland is real. There are 150 theater companies and only about ten real theater venues in Portland, and some of those don’t rent to other companies. Now, we’ve all done shows in the basement of a pizza parlor or in the backroom of a book store, but we need real, grown-up theater space - with lights and sound, dressing rooms and bathrooms, seats and a lobby. You might be laughing, but these are things that companies will do without to get a show produced.

On September 12th, 2014, JANE a theater company, launched an aggressive Indiegogo campaign to buy a NE Portland warehouse and rehab it into a viable live performance venue, with the goal of housing two stages, two rehearsal rooms, a class room, a scene shop, costume shop and offices. This performance center will accommodate six resident companies.

So far we have *Letters of Intent* from these companies:

 **Theatre Vertigo**

 **BadAss**

 **PassinArt**

 **Happy Improv Fun Time**

In June 2013, Theater! Theatre! on SE Belmont closed, displacing more than 15 local theater groups who produced shows in the space regularly. Portland is known for its thriving arts community, however, it has very few affordable theater spaces. Those priced right for smaller, independent theater companies are fully booked more than a year in advance.

Kim Bogus, founding Artistic Director of JANE, decided to spearhead a campaign to build a new theater space that would be affordable for the multitudes of artists in the Portland community, while being easily accessible to the greater Portland theater going public.

After months of planning, the Indiegogo campaign has launched. It can be found here: <https://www.indiegogo.com/projects/set-the-scene-building-fund>

The goal is to raise 2.5 million to buy the building outright, giving Portland a permanent, full time, affordable live performance venue.

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